FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 17

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2013

0283S.10T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 168.021, 169.070, 169.270, 169.291, 169.301, 169.324, 169.350, 169.670, and 178.550, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twelve new sections relating to education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 168.021, 169.070, 169.270, 169.291, 169.301, 169.324,

- 2 169.350, 169.670, and 178.550, RSMo, are repealed and twelve new sections
- 3 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 135.1220, 161.249, 168.021,
- 4 169.070, 169.270, 169.291, 169.301, 169.324, 169.350, 169.670, 170.340, and
- 5 178.550, to read as follows:

135.1220. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as

- 2 "Bryce's Law".
- 3 2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:
- 4 (1) "Autism spectrum disorder", pervasive developmental
- 5 disorder; Asperger syndrome; childhood disintegrative disorder; Rett
- 6 syndrome; and autism;
- 7 (2) "Contribution", a donation of cash, stock, bonds, or other
- 8 marketable securities, or real property;
- 9 (3) "Department", the department of elementary and secondary
- 10 education;
- 11 (4) "Director", the commissioner of education;
- 12 (5) "Educational scholarships", grants to students to cover all or

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part of the tuition and fees at a qualified nonpublic school, a qualified public school, or a qualified service provider, including transportation; 14

- 15 (6) "Eligible child", any child from birth to age five living in Missouri who has an individualized family services program under the 16 First Steps program, sections 160.900 to 160.933, and whose parent or guardian has completed the complaint procedure under the Individuals 18 with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, and has received an 19 unsatisfactory response; or any child from birth to age five who has 20 been evaluated for special needs as defined in this section by a person qualified to perform evaluations under the First Steps program and has 23 been determined to have special needs but who falls below the threshold for eligibility by no less than twenty-five percent;
 - (7) "Eligible student", any elementary or secondary student who attended public school in Missouri the preceding semester, or who will be attending school in Missouri for the first time, who has an individualized education program based on a special needs condition or who has a medical diagnosis by a qualified health professional of a special needs condition;
 - (8) "Parent", includes a guardian, custodian, or other person with authority to act on behalf of the child;
 - (9) "Program", the program established in this section;
 - (10) "Qualified health professional", a person licensed under chapter 334 or 337 who possesses credentials as described in rules promulgated jointly by the department of elementary and secondary education and the department of mental health to make a diagnosis of a student's special needs for this program;
 - (11) "Qualified school", either an accredited public elementary or secondary school in a district that is accredited without provision outside of the district in which a student resides or an accredited nonpublic elementary or secondary school in Missouri that complies with all of the requirements of the program and complies with all state laws that apply to nonpublic schools regarding criminal background checks for employees and excludes from employment any person not permitted by state law to work in a nonpublic school;
- (12) "Qualified service provider", a person or agency authorized 47 by the department to provide services under the First Steps program, 48 sections 160.900 to 160.933; 49

- 50 (13) "Scholarship granting organization", a charitable 51 organization that:
 - (a) Is exempt from federal income tax;
 - (b) Complies with the requirements of this program;
- (c) Provides education scholarships to students attending qualified schools of their parents' choice or to children receiving services from qualified service providers; and
- 57 (d) Does not accept contributions on behalf of any eligible 58 student or eligible child from any donor with any obligation to provide 59 any support for the eligible student or eligible child;
- 60 (14) "Special needs", an autism spectrum disorder, Down 61 syndrome, Angelman syndrome, or cerebral palsy.
- 3. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop a master list of resources available to the parents of children with an autism spectrum disorder and shall maintain a web page for the information. The department shall also actively seek financial resources in the form of grants and donations that may be devoted to scholarship funds or to clinical trials for behavioral interventions that may be undertaken by qualified service providers. The department may contract out or delegate these duties to a nonprofit organization. Priority in referral for funding shall be given to children who have not yet entered elementary school.
- 4. The director shall determine, at least annually, which organizations in this state may be classified as scholarship granting organizations. The director may require of an organization seeking to be classified as a scholarship granting organization whatever information which is reasonably necessary to make such a determination. The director shall classify an organization as a scholarship granting organization if such organization meets the definition set forth in this section.
- 5. The director shall establish a procedure by which a donor can determine if an organization has been classified as a scholarship granting organization. Scholarship granting organizations shall be permitted to decline a contribution from a donor.
- 6. Each scholarship granting organization shall provide information to the director concerning the identity of each donor making a contribution to the scholarship granting organization.

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- 7. (1) The director shall annually make a determination on the number of students in Missouri with an individualized education program based upon special needs as defined in this section. The director shall use ten percent of this number to determine the maximum number of students to receive scholarships from a scholarship granting organization in that year for students with special needs who have at the time of application an individualized education program, plus a number calculated by the director by applying the state's latest available autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and Angelman syndrome incidence rates to the state's population of children from age five to nineteen who are not enrolled in public schools and taking ten percent of that number. The total of these two calculations shall constitute the maximum number of scholarships available to students.
- (2) The director shall also annually make a determination on the number of children in Missouri whose parent or guardian has enrolled the child in First Steps, received an individualized family services program based on special needs, and filed a complaint through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, and received a negative response. In addition to this number, the director shall apply 106 the latest available autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and Angelman syndrome incidence rates to the latest available census information for children from birth to age five and determine ten percent of that number for the maximum number of scholarships for children.
- (3) The director shall publicly announce the number of each category of scholarship opportunities available each year. Once a 113 scholarship granting organization has decided to provide a student or child with a scholarship, it shall promptly notify the director. The 115 116 director shall keep a running tally of the number of scholarships granted in the order in which they were reported. Once the tally 117118 reaches the annual limit of scholarships for eligible students or children, the director shall notify all of the participating scholarship 119 granting organizations that they shall not issue any more scholarships 120and any more receipts for contributions. If the scholarship granting 121 organizations have not expended all of their available scholarship 122funds in that year at the time when the limit is reached, the available 123

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- 124 .scholarship funds may be carried over into the next year. These
 125 unexpended funds shall not be counted as part of the requirement in
 126 subdivision (3) of subsection 10 of this section for that year. Any
 127 receipt for a scholarship contribution issued by a scholarship granting
 128 organization before the director has publicly announced the student or
 129 child limit has been reached shall be valid.
- 8. Each scholarship granting organization participating in the program shall:
 - (1) Notify the department of its intent to provide educational scholarships to students attending qualified schools or children receiving services from qualified service providers;
 - (2) Provide a department-approved receipt to donors for contributions made to the organization;
 - (3) Ensure that at least ninety percent of its revenue from donations is spent on educational scholarships, and that all revenue from interest or investments is spent on educational scholarships;
 - (4) Ensure that the scholarships provided do not exceed an average of twenty thousand dollars per eligible child or fifty thousand dollars per eligible student;
- (5) Inform the parent or guardian of the student or child applying for a scholarship that accepting the scholarship is tantamount to a "parentally placed private school student" pursuant to 34 CFR 300.130 and, thus, neither the department nor any Missouri public school is responsible to provide the student with a free appropriate public education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- 150 (6) Distribute periodic scholarship payments as checks made out 151 to a student's or child's parent and mailed to the qualified school where 152 the student is enrolled or qualified service provider used by the 153 child. The parent or guardian shall endorse the check before it can be 154 deposited;
- 155 (7) Cooperate with the department to conduct criminal 156 background checks on all of its employees and board members and 157 exclude from employment or governance any individual who might 158 reasonably pose a risk to the appropriate use of contributed funds;
- 159 (8) Ensure that scholarships are portable during the school year 160 and can be used at any qualified school that accepts the eligible

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- student or at a different qualified service provider for an eligible child according to a parent's wishes. If a student moves to a new qualified school during a school year or to a different qualified service provider for an eligible child, the scholarship amount may be prorated;
 - (9) Demonstrate its financial accountability by:
- 166 (a) Submitting a financial information report for the 167 organization that complies with uniform financial accounting standards 168 established by the department and conducted by a certified public 169 accountant; and
- 170 **(b)** Having the auditor certify that the report is free of material 171 misstatements;
 - (10) Demonstrate its financial viability, if the organization is to receive donations of fifty thousand dollars or more during the school year, by filing with the department before the start of the school year:
- 175 (a) A surety bond payable to the state in an amount equal to the 176 aggregate amount of contributions expected to be received during the 177 school year; or
- 178 **(b)** Financial information that demonstrates the financial 179 viability of the scholarship granting organization.
- 9. Each scholarship granting organization shall ensure that each participating school or service provider that accepts its scholarship students or children shall:
- 183 (1) Comply with all health and safety laws or codes that apply to 184 nonpublic schools or service providers;
 - (2) Hold a valid occupancy permit if required by its municipality;
- 186 (3) Certify that it will comply with 42 U.S.C. Section 1981, as 187 amended;
 - (4) Provide academic accountability to parents of the students or children in the program by regularly reporting to the parent on the student's or child's progress;
- 191 (5) Certify that in providing any educational services or behavior 192 strategies to a scholarship recipient with a diagnosis of or an 193 individualized education program based upon autism spectrum 194 disorder it will:
- 195 (a) Adhere to the best practices recommendations of the Missouri 196 Autism Guidelines Initiative or document why it is varying from the 197 guidelines;

- 198 (b) Not use any evidence-based interventions that have been 199 found ineffective by the commission on Medicare as described in the 200 Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative Guide to Evidence-based 201 Interventions; and
- (c) Provide documentation in the student's or child's record of the rationale for the use of any intervention that is categorized as unestablished, insufficient evidence, or level 3 by the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative Guide to Evidence-based Interventions; and
- 206 (6) Certify that in providing any educational services or behavior strategies to a scholarship recipient with a diagnosis of, or an 207 208 individualized family services program based upon Down syndrome, Angelman syndrome, or cerebral palsy, it will use student, teacher, 209 210 teaching, and school influences that rank in the zone of desired effects in the meta-analysis of John Hattie, or equivalent analyses as 211212 determined by the department, or document why it is using a method 213 that has not been determined by analysis to rank in the zone of desired effects. 214
- 215 10. Scholarship granting organizations shall not provide 216 educational scholarships for students to attend any school or children 217 to receive services from any qualified service provider with paid staff 218 or board members who are relatives within the first degree of 219 consanguinity or affinity.
- 220 11. A scholarship granting organization shall publicly report to 221 the department, by June first of each year, the following information 222 prepared by a certified public accountant regarding its grants in the 223 previous calendar year:
- 224 (1) The name and address of the scholarship granting 225 organization;
- 226 (2) The total number and total dollar amount of contributions 227 received during the previous calendar year; and
- 228 (3) The total number and total dollar amount of educational 229 scholarships awarded during the previous calendar year, including the 230 category of each scholarship, and the total number and total dollar 231 amount of educational scholarships awarded during the previous year 232 to students eligible for free and reduced lunch.
- 233 12. The department shall adopt rules and regulations consistent with this section as necessary to implement the program.

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- 13. The department shall provide a standardized format for a receipt to be issued by a scholarship granting organization to a donor to indicate the value of a contribution received.
- 238 14. The department shall provide a standardized format for 239 scholarship granting organizations to report the information in this 240 section.
- 241 15. The department may conduct either a financial review or 242 audit of a scholarship granting organization.
- 16. If the department believes that a scholarship granting 243 organization has intentionally and substantially failed to comply with 244 the requirements of this section, the department may hold a hearing 245before the director or the director's designee to bar a scholarship 246 247granting organization from participating in the program. The director or the director's designee shall issue a decision within thirty days. A 248 249scholarship granting organization may appeal the director's decision 250to the administrative hearing commission for a hearing in accordance 251 with the provisions of chapter 621.
 - 17. If the scholarship granting organization is barred from participating in the program, the department shall notify affected scholarship students or children and their parents of this decision within fifteen days.
 - 18. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2013, shall be invalid and void.
 - 19. The department shall conduct a study of the program with funds other than state funds. The department may contract with one or more qualified researchers who have previous experience evaluating similar programs. The department may accept grants to assist in funding this study.
- 271 **20.** The study shall assess:

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- 272 (1) The level of participating students' and children's satisfaction 273 with the program in a manner suitable to the student or child;
 - (2) The level of parental satisfaction with the program;
- 275 (3) The percentage of participating students who were bullied or 276 harassed because of their special needs status at their resident school 277 district compared to the percentage so bullied or harassed at their 278 qualified school;
- 279 (4) The percentage of participating students who exhibited 280 behavioral problems at their resident school district compared to the 281 percentage exhibiting behavioral problems at their qualified school;
 - (5) The class size experienced by participating students at their resident school district and at their qualified school; and
- 284 (6) The fiscal impact to the state and resident school districts of 285 the program.
- 21. The study shall be completed using appropriate analytical and behavioral sciences methodologies to ensure public confidence in the study.
- 289 **22.** The department shall provide the general assembly with a 290 final copy of the evaluation of the program by December 31, 2016.
- 291 23. The public and nonpublic participating schools and service 292 providers from which students transfer to participate in the program 293 shall cooperate with the research effort by providing student or child 294 assessment instrument scores and any other data necessary to complete 295 this study.
- 24. The general assembly may require periodic updates on the status of the study from the department. The individuals completing the study shall make their data and methodology available for public review while complying with the requirements of the Family 300 Educational Rights and Privacy Act, as amended.
- 301 25. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:
- 302 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this 303 section shall sunset automatically on December 31, 2019, unless 304 reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and
 - (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section shall sunset automatically on December 31, 2031; and
- 307 (3) This section shall terminate on December thirty-first of the 308 calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the

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309 program authorized under this section is sunset.

161.249. 1. There is hereby created the "Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children" which shall consist of seven members appointed by the commissioner of education. Members shall serve a term of four years, except for the initial appointments, which shall be for the following lengths:

- (1) One member shall be appointed for a term of one year;
- (2) Two members shall be appointed for a term of two years;
- 8 (3) Two members shall be appointed for a term of three years;
- 9 (4) Two members shall be appointed for a term of four years.
- 2. Upon the expiration of the term of a member, that member shall continue to serve until a replacement is appointed. The council shall organize with a chairperson selected by the commissioner of education. Members of the council shall serve without compensation and shall not be reimbursed for travel to and from meetings.
 - 3. The commissioner of education shall consider recommendations for membership on the council from organizations of educators and parents of gifted and talented children and other groups with an interest in the education of gifted and talented children. The members appointed shall be residents of the state of Missouri and selected on the basis of their knowledge of, or experience in, programs and problems of the education of gifted and talented children.
 - 4. The commissioner of education shall seek the advice of the council regarding all rules and policies to be adopted by the state board of education relating to the education of gifted and talented children. A staff person appointed by the state board of education shall serve as the state board's liaison to the council. The state board of education shall provide necessary clerical support and assistance in order to facilitate meetings of the council.
 - 168.021. 1. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be granted as follows:
- 3 (1) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it:
- 4 (a) Upon the basis of college credit;
- 5 (b) Upon the basis of examination;
- 6 (2) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by the state 7 board with advice from the advisory council established by section 168.015 to any 8 individual who presents to the state board a valid doctoral degree from an

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- 9 accredited institution of higher education accredited by a regional accrediting 10 association such as North Central Association. Such certificate shall be limited 11 to the major area of postgraduate study of the holder, shall be issued only after 12 successful completion of the examination required for graduation pursuant to 13 rules adopted by the state board of education, and shall be restricted to those 14 certificates established pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section;
- 15 (3) By the state board, which shall issue the professional certificate classification in both the general and specialized areas most closely aligned with the current areas of certification approved by the state board, commensurate with the years of teaching experience of the applicant, and based upon the following criteria:
- 20 (a) Recommendation of a state-approved baccalaureate-level teacher 21 preparation program;
 - (b) Successful attainment of the Missouri qualifying score on the exit assessment for teachers or administrators designated by the state board of education. Applicants who have not successfully achieved a qualifying score on the designated examinations will be issued a two-year nonrenewable provisional certificate; and
 - (c) Upon completion of a background check as prescribed in section 168.133 and possession of a valid teaching certificate in the state from which the applicant's teacher preparation program was completed;
 - (4) By the state board, under rules prescribed by it, on the basis of a relevant bachelor's degree, or higher degree, and a passing score for the designated exit examination, for individuals whose academic degree and professional experience are suitable to provide a basis for instruction solely in the subject matter of banking or financial responsibility, at the discretion of the state board. Such certificate shall be limited to the major area of study of the holder and shall be restricted to those certificates established under subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section. Holders of certificates granted under this subdivision shall be exempt from the teacher tenure act under sections 168.102 to 168.130 and each school district shall have the decision-making authority on whether to hire the holders of such certificates; or
- 41 (5) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it, on 42 the basis of certification by the American Board for Certification of Teacher 43 Excellence (ABCTE) and verification of ability to work with children as 44 demonstrated by sixty contact hours in any one of the following areas as validated

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by the school principal: sixty contact hours in the classroom, of which at least forty-five must be teaching; sixty contact hours as a substitute teacher, with at least thirty consecutive hours in the same classroom; sixty contact hours of 47 teaching in a private school; or sixty contact hours of teaching as a 48 paraprofessional, for an initial four-year ABCTE certificate of license to teach, 49 except that such certificate shall not be granted for the areas of early childhood 50 education, elementary education, or special education. Upon the completion of 51 52 the requirements listed in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this subdivision, an 53 applicant shall be eligible to apply for a career continuous professional certificate 54 under subdivision (2) of subsection 3 of this section:

- 55 (a) Completion of thirty contact hours of professional development within 56 four years, which may include hours spent in class in an appropriate college 57 curriculum;
 - (b) Validated completion of two years of the mentoring program of the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence or a district mentoring program approved by the state board of education;
 - (c) Attainment of a successful performance-based teacher evaluation; and
 - (d) Participate in a beginning teacher assistance program.
 - 2. All valid teaching certificates issued pursuant to law or state board policies and regulations prior to September 1, 1988, shall be exempt from the professional development requirements of this section and shall continue in effect until they expire, are revoked or suspended, as provided by law. When such certificates are required to be renewed, the state board or its designee shall grant to each holder of such a certificate the certificate most nearly equivalent to the one so held. Anyone who holds, as of August 28, 2003, a valid PC-I, PC-II, or continuous professional certificate shall, upon expiration of his or her current certificate, be issued the appropriate level of certificate based upon the classification system established pursuant to subsection 3 of this section.
- 3. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be based upon minimum requirements prescribed by the state board of education which shall include completion of a background check as prescribed in section 168.133. The state board shall provide for the following levels of professional certification: an initial professional certificate and a career continuous professional certificate.
- 79 (1) The initial professional certificate shall be issued upon completion of 80 requirements established by the state board of education and shall be valid based

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- upon verification of actual teaching within a specified time period established by the state board of education. The state board shall require holders of the fourvear initial professional certificate to:
 - (a) Participate in a mentoring program approved and provided by the district for a minimum of two years;
 - (b) Complete thirty contact hours of professional development, which may include hours spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum, or for holders of a certificate under subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of this section, an amount of professional development in proportion to the certificate holder's hours in the classroom, if the certificate holder is employed less than full time; and
 - (c) Participate in a beginning teacher assistance program;
 - (2) (a) The career continuous professional certificate shall be issued upon verification of completion of four years of teaching under the initial professional certificate and upon verification of the completion of the requirements articulated in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision (1) of this subsection or paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section.
 - (b) The career continuous professional certificate shall be continuous based upon verification of actual employment in an educational position as provided for in state board guidelines and completion of fifteen contact hours of professional development per year which may include hours spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum. Should the possessor of a valid career continuous professional certificate fail, in any given year, to meet the fifteen-hour professional development requirement, the possessor may, within two years, make up the missing hours. In order to make up for missing hours, the possessor shall first complete the fifteen-hour requirement for the current year and then may count hours in excess of the current year requirement as make-up hours. Should the possessor fail to make up the missing hours within two years, the certificate shall become inactive. In order to reactivate the certificate, the possessor shall complete twenty-four contact hours of professional development which may include hours spent in the classroom in an appropriate college curriculum within the six months prior to or after reactivating his or her certificate. The requirements of this paragraph shall be monitored and verified by the local school district which employs the holder of the career continuous professional certificate.
 - (c) A holder of a career continuous professional certificate shall be exempt from the professional development contact hour requirements of paragraph (b) of this subdivision if such teacher has a local professional development plan in place

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- 117 within such teacher's school district and meets two of the three following criteria:
- a. Has ten years of teaching experience as defined by the state board of education:
- b. Possesses a master's degree; or
- 121 c. Obtains a rigorous national certification as approved by the state board 122 of education.
- 123 4. Policies and procedures shall be established by which a teacher who 124 was not retained due to a reduction in force may retain the current level of 125 certification. There shall also be established policies and procedures allowing a 126 teacher who has not been employed in an educational position for three years or 127 more to reactivate his or her last level of certification by completing twenty-four 128 contact hours of professional development which may include hours spent in the 129 classroom in an appropriate college curriculum within the six months prior to or 130 after reactivating his or her certificate.
 - 5. The state board shall, upon completion of a background check as prescribed in section 168.133, issue a professional certificate classification in the areas most closely aligned with an applicant's current areas of certification, commensurate with the years of teaching experience of the applicant, to any person who is hired to teach in a public school in this state and who possesses a valid teaching certificate from another state or certification under subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of this section, provided that the certificate holder shall annually complete the state board's requirements for such level of certification, and shall establish policies by which residents of states other than the state of Missouri may be assessed a fee for a certificate license to teach in the public schools of Missouri. Such fee shall be in an amount sufficient to recover any or all costs associated with the issuing of a certificate of license to teach. The board shall promulgate rules to authorize the issuance of a provisional certificate of license, which shall allow the holder to assume classroom duties pending the completion of a criminal background check under section 168.133, for any applicant who:
 - (1) Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces stationed in Missouri;
- 147 (2) Relocated from another state within one year of the date of 148 application;
- 149 (3) Underwent a criminal background check in order to be issued a 150 teaching certificate of license from another state; and
- 151 (4) Otherwise qualifies under this section.
- 6. The state board may assess to holders of an initial professional

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153 certificate a fee, to be deposited into the excellence in education revolving fund established pursuant to section 160.268, for the issuance of the career continuous 154 professional certificate. However, such fee shall not exceed the combined costs 155 156 of issuance and any criminal background check required as a condition of 157 issuance. Applicants for the initial ABCTE certificate shall be responsible for any 158 fees associated with the program leading to the issuance of the certificate, but 159 nothing in this section shall prohibit a district from developing a policy that permits fee reimbursement. 160

- 7. Any member of the public school retirement system of Missouri who entered covered employment with ten or more years of educational experience in another state or states and held a certificate issued by another state and subsequently worked in a school district covered by the public school retirement system of Missouri for ten or more years who later became certificated in Missouri shall have that certificate dated back to his or her original date of employment in a Missouri public school.
- 168 [8. The provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, as well 169 as any other provision of this section relating to the American Board for 170 Certification of Teacher Excellence, shall terminate on August 28, 2014.]
 - 169.070. 1. The retirement allowance of a member whose age at retirement is sixty years or more and whose creditable service is five years or more, or whose sum of age and creditable service equals eighty years or more, or who has attained age fifty-five and whose creditable service is twenty-five years or more or whose creditable service is thirty years or more regardless of age, may be the sum of the following items, not to exceed one hundred percent of the member's final average salary:
 - 8 (1) Two and five-tenths percent of the member's final average salary for 9 each year of membership service;
- 10 (2) Six-tenths of the amount payable for a year of membership service for 11 each year of prior service not exceeding thirty years.
- 12 In lieu of the retirement allowance otherwise provided in subdivisions (1) and (2) 13 of this subsection, a member may elect to receive a retirement allowance of:
- 14 (3) [Between July 1, 1998, and July 1, 2013,] Two and four-tenths percent 15 of the member's final average salary for each year of membership service, if the 16 member's creditable service is twenty-nine years or more but less than thirty 17 years, and the member has not attained age fifty-five;
 - (4) [Between July 1, 1998, and July 1, 2013,] Two and thirty-five-

- 19 hundredths percent of the member's final average salary for each year of
- 20 membership service, if the member's creditable service is twenty-eight years or
- 21 more but less than twenty-nine years, and the member has not attained age fifty-
- 22 five;
- 23 (5) [Between July 1, 1998, and July 1, 2013,] Two and three-tenths
- 24 percent of the member's final average salary for each year of membership service,
- 25 if the member's creditable service is twenty-seven years or more but less than
- 26 twenty-eight years, and the member has not attained age fifty-five;
- 27 (6) [Between July 1, 1998, and July 1, 2013,] Two and twenty-five-
- 28 hundredths percent of the member's final average salary for each year of
- 29 membership service, if the member's creditable service is twenty-six years or
- 30 more but less than twenty-seven years, and the member has not attained age
- 31 fifty-five;
- 32 (7) [Between July 1, 1998, and July 1, 2013,] Two and two-tenths percent
- 33 of the member's final average salary for each year of membership service, if the
- 34 member's creditable service is twenty-five years or more but less than twenty-six
- 35 years, and the member has not attained age fifty-five;
- 36 (8) Between July 1, 2001, and July 1, [2013] **2014**, Two and fifty-five
- 37 hundredths percent of the member's final average salary for each year of
- 38 membership service, if the member's creditable service is thirty-one years or more
- 39 regardless of age.
- 40 2. In lieu of the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 of this
- 41 section, a member whose age is sixty years or more on September 28, 1975, may
- 42 elect to have the member's retirement allowance calculated as a sum of the
- 43 following items:
- 44 (1) Sixty cents plus one and five-tenths percent of the member's final
- 45 average salary for each year of membership service;
- 46 (2) Six-tenths of the amount payable for a year of membership service for
- 47 each year of prior service not exceeding thirty years;
- 48 (3) Three-fourths of one percent of the sum of subdivisions (1) and (2) of
- 49 this subsection for each month of attained age in excess of sixty years but not in
- 50 excess of age sixty-five.
- 51 3. (1) In lieu of the retirement allowance provided either in subsection 1
- 52 or 2 of this section, collectively called "option 1", a member whose creditable
- 53 service is twenty-five years or more or who has attained the age of fifty-five with
 - 4 five or more years of creditable service may elect in the member's application for

retirement to receive the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance in reduced monthly payments for life during retirement with the provision that:

Option 2. Upon the member's death the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance will be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the retired member elected option 1; OR

Option 3. Upon the death of the member three-fourths of the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member and as the member shall have nominated in an election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance will be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the member elected option 1; OR

Option 4. Upon the death of the member one-half of the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of, and paid to, such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member and as the member shall have nominated in an election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance shall be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the member elected option 1; OR

Option 5. Upon the death of the member prior to the member having received one hundred twenty monthly payments of the member's reduced allowance, the remainder of the one hundred twenty monthly payments of the reduced allowance shall be paid to such beneficiary as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option or in a subsequent nomination. If there is no beneficiary so nominated who survives the member for the remainder of the one hundred twenty monthly payments, the total of the remainder of such one hundred twenty monthly payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the last person, in that order of precedence, to receive a monthly allowance in a lump sum payment. If the total of the one hundred twenty payments paid to the retired individual and the beneficiary of the retired

91 individual is less than the total of the member's accumulated contributions, the 92 difference shall be paid to the beneficiary in a lump sum; OR

Option 6. Upon the death of the member prior to the member having received sixty monthly payments of the member's reduced allowance, the remainder of the sixty monthly payments of the reduced allowance shall be paid to such beneficiary as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option or in a subsequent nomination. If there is no beneficiary so nominated who survives the member for the remainder of the sixty monthly payments, the total of the remainder of such sixty monthly payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the last person, in that order of precedence, to receive a monthly allowance in a lump sum payment. If the total of the sixty payments paid to the retired individual and the beneficiary of the retired individual is less than the total of the member's accumulated contributions, the difference shall be paid to the beneficiary in a lump sum.

- (2) The election of an option may be made only in the application for retirement and such application must be filed prior to the date on which the retirement of the member is to be effective. If either the member or the person nominated to receive the survivorship payments dies before the effective date of retirement, the option shall not be effective, provided that:
- (a) If the member or a person retired on disability retirement dies after acquiring twenty-five or more years of creditable service or after attaining the age of fifty-five years and acquiring five or more years of creditable service and before retirement, except retirement with disability benefits, and the person named by the member as the member's beneficiary has an insurable interest in the life of the deceased member, the designated beneficiary may elect to receive either survivorship benefits under option 2 or a payment of the accumulated contributions of the member. If survivorship benefits under option 2 are elected and the member at the time of death would have been eligible to receive an actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance, the designated beneficiary may further elect to defer the option 2 payments until the date the member would have been eligible to receive the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 or 2 of this section;
- (b) If the member or a person retired on disability retirement dies before attaining age fifty-five but after acquiring five but fewer than twenty-five years of creditable service, and the person named as the member's beneficiary has an

insurable interest in the life of the deceased member, the designated beneficiary may elect to receive either a payment of the member's accumulated contributions, or survivorship benefits under option 2 to begin on the date the member would first have been eligible to receive an actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance, or to begin on the date the member would first have been eligible to receive the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 or 2 of this section.

- 4. If the total of the retirement or disability allowance paid to an individual before the death of the individual is less than the accumulated contributions at the time of retirement, the difference shall be paid to the beneficiary of the individual, or to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the individual in that order of precedence. If an optional benefit as provided in option 2, 3 or 4 in subsection 3 of this section had been elected, and the beneficiary dies after receiving the optional benefit, and if the total retirement allowance paid to the retired individual and the beneficiary of the retired individual is less than the total of the contributions, the difference shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the beneficiary, in that order of precedence, unless the retired individual designates a different recipient with the board at or after retirement.
- 5. If a member dies and his or her financial institution is unable to accept the final payment or payments due to the member, the final payment or payments shall be paid to the beneficiary of the member or, if there is no beneficiary, to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the member, in that order of precedence, unless otherwise stated. If the beneficiary of a deceased member dies and his or her financial institution is unable to accept the final payment or payments, the final payment or payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the member, in that order of precedence, unless otherwise stated.
- 6. If a member dies before receiving a retirement allowance, the member's accumulated contributions at the time of the death of the member shall be paid to the beneficiary of the member or, if there is no beneficiary, to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or to the estate of the member, in that order of precedence; except that, no such payment shall be made if the beneficiary elects option 2 in subsection 3 of this

section, unless the beneficiary dies before having received benefits pursuant to
that subsection equal to the accumulated contributions of the member, in which
case the amount of accumulated contributions in excess of the total benefits paid
pursuant to that subsection shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving
children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the
beneficiary, in that order of precedence.

- 7. If a member ceases to be a public school employee as herein defined and certifies to the board of trustees that such cessation is permanent, or if the membership of the person is otherwise terminated, the member shall be paid the member's accumulated contributions with interest.
- 8. Notwithstanding any provisions of sections 169.010 to 169.141 to the contrary, if a member ceases to be a public school employee after acquiring five or more years of membership service in Missouri, the member may at the option of the member leave the member's contributions with the retirement system and claim a retirement allowance any time after reaching the minimum age for voluntary retirement. When the member's claim is presented to the board, the member shall be granted an allowance as provided in sections 169.010 to 169.141 on the basis of the member's age, years of service, and the provisions of the law in effect at the time the member requests the member's retirement to become effective.
- 9. The retirement allowance of a member retired because of disability shall be nine-tenths of the allowance to which the member's creditable service would entitle the member if the member's age were sixty, or fifty percent of one-twelfth of the annual salary rate used in determining the member's contributions during the last school year for which the member received a year of creditable service immediately prior to the member's disability, whichever is greater, except that no such allowance shall exceed the retirement allowance to which the member would have been entitled upon retirement at age sixty if the member had continued to teach from the date of disability until age sixty at the same salary rate.
- 10. Notwithstanding any provisions of sections 169.010 to 169.141 to the contrary, from October 13, 1961, the contribution rate pursuant to sections 169.010 to 169.141 shall be multiplied by the factor of two-thirds for any member of the system for whom federal Old Age and Survivors Insurance tax is paid from state or local tax funds on account of the member's employment entitling the person to membership in the system. The monetary benefits for a member who

- elected not to exercise an option to pay into the system a retroactive contribution of four percent on that part of the member's annual salary rate which was in excess of four thousand eight hundred dollars but not in excess of eight thousand four hundred dollars for each year of employment in a position covered by this system between July 1, 1957, and July 1, 1961, as provided in subsection 10 of this section as it appears in RSMo, 1969, shall be the sum of:
- 205 (1) For years of service prior to July 1, 1946, six-tenths of the full amount 206 payable for years of membership service;
- 207 (2) For years of membership service after July 1, 1946, in which the full 208 contribution rate was paid, full benefits under the formula in effect at the time 209 of the member's retirement;
- 210 (3) For years of membership service after July 1, 1957, and prior to July
 211 1, 1961, the benefits provided in this section as it appears in RSMo, 1959; except
 212 that if the member has at least thirty years of creditable service at retirement the
 213 member shall receive the benefit payable pursuant to that section as though the
 214 member's age were sixty-five at retirement;
- 215 (4) For years of membership service after July 1, 1961, in which the two-216 thirds contribution rate was paid, two-thirds of the benefits under the formula in 217 effect at the time of the member's retirement.
- 11. The monetary benefits for each other member for whom federal Old 219 Age and Survivors Insurance tax is or was paid at any time from state or local 220 funds on account of the member's employment entitling the member to 221 membership in the system shall be the sum of:
- 222 (1) For years of service prior to July 1, 1946, six-tenths of the full amount 223 payable for years of membership service;
- 224 (2) For years of membership service after July 1, 1946, in which the full 225 contribution rate was paid, full benefits under the formula in effect at the time 226 of the member's retirement;
- 227 (3) For years of membership service after July 1, 1957, in which the two-228 thirds contribution rate was paid, two-thirds of the benefits under the formula in 229 effect at the time of the member's retirement.
- 12. Any retired member of the system who was retired prior to September 1, 1972, or beneficiary receiving payments under option 1 or option 2 of subsection 3 of this section, as such option existed prior to September 1, 1972, will be eligible to receive an increase in the retirement allowance of the member of two percent for each year, or major fraction of more than one-half of a year,

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which the retired member has been retired prior to July 1, 1975. This increased amount shall be payable commencing with January, 1976, and shall thereafter be referred to as the member's retirement allowance. The increase provided for in this subsection shall not affect the retired member's eligibility for compensation provided for in section 169.580 or 169.585, nor shall the amount being paid pursuant to these sections be reduced because of any increases provided for in this section.

13. If the board of trustees determines that the cost of living, as measured by generally accepted standards, increases two percent or more in the preceding fiscal year, the board shall increase the retirement allowances which the retired members or beneficiaries are receiving by two percent of the amount being received by the retired member or the beneficiary at the time the annual increase is granted by the board with the provision that the increases provided for in this subsection shall not become effective until the fourth January first following the member's retirement or January 1, 1977, whichever later occurs, or in the case of any member retiring on or after July 1, 2000, the increase provided for in this subsection shall not become effective until the third January first following the member's retirement, or in the case of any member retiring on or after July 1, 2001, the increase provided for in this subsection shall not become effective until the second January first following the member's retirement. Commencing with January 1, 1992, if the board of trustees determines that the cost of living has increased five percent or more in the preceding fiscal year, the board shall increase the retirement allowances by five percent. The total of the increases granted to a retired member or the beneficiary after December 31, 1976, may not exceed eighty percent of the retirement allowance established at retirement or as previously adjusted by other subsections. If the cost of living increases less than five percent, the board of trustees may determine the percentage of increase to be made in retirement allowances, but at no time can the increase exceed five percent per year. If the cost of living decreases in a fiscal year, there will be no increase in allowances for retired members on the following January first.

14. The board of trustees may reduce the amounts which have been granted as increases to a member pursuant to subsection 13 of this section if the cost of living, as determined by the board and as measured by generally accepted standards, is less than the cost of living was at the time of the first increase granted to the member; except that, the reductions shall not exceed the amount of increases which have been made to the member's allowance after December 31,

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- 15. Any application for retirement shall include a sworn statement by the member certifying that the spouse of the member at the time the application was completed was aware of the application and the plan of retirement elected in the application.
- 276 16. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person retired prior 277 to September 28, 1983, who is receiving a reduced retirement allowance under option 1 or option 2 of subsection 3 of this section, as such option existed prior to 278 279 September 28, 1983, and whose beneficiary nominated to receive continued 280 retirement allowance payments under the elected option dies or has died, shall 281 upon application to the board of trustees have his or her retirement allowance 282 increased to the amount he or she would have been receiving had the option not 283 been elected, actuarially adjusted to recognize any excessive benefits which would 284 have been paid to him or her up to the time of application.
 - 17. Benefits paid pursuant to the provisions of the public school retirement system of Missouri shall not exceed the limitations of Section 415 of Title 26 of the United States Code except as provided pursuant to this subsection. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the board of trustees may establish a benefit plan pursuant to Section 415(m) of Title 26 of the United States Code. Such plan shall be created solely for the purpose described in Section 415(m)(3)(A) of Title 26 of the United States Code. The board of trustees may promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection and to create and administer such benefit plan.
- 294 18. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any 295 person retired before, on, or after May 26, 1994, shall be made, constituted, 296 appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of 297 education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral 298 opinions to the board in response to such requests. As compensation for such 299 duties the person shall receive an amount based on the person's years of service 300 so that the total amount received pursuant to sections 169.010 to 169.141 shall 301 be at least the minimum amounts specified in subdivisions (1) to (4) of this 302 subsection. In determining the minimum amount to be received, the amounts in 303 subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection shall be adjusted in accordance with the 304 actuarial adjustment, if any, that was applied to the person's retirement 305 allowance. In determining the minimum amount to be received, beginning September 1, 1996, the amounts in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection 306

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shall be adjusted in accordance with the actuarial adjustment, if any, that was applied to the person's retirement allowance due to election of an optional form of retirement having a continued monthly payment after the person's death. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no person retired before, on, or after May 26, 1994, and no beneficiary of such a person, shall receive a retirement benefit pursuant to sections 169.010 to 169.141 based on the person's years of service less than the following amounts:

- (1) Thirty or more years of service, one thousand two hundred dollars;
- 315 (2) At least twenty-five years but less than thirty years, one thousand 316 dollars;
- 317 (3) At least twenty years but less than twenty-five years, eight hundred 318 dollars;
 - (4) At least fifteen years but less than twenty years, six hundred dollars.
 - 19. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, any person retired prior to May 26, 1994, and any designated beneficiary of such a retired member who was deceased prior to July 1, 1999, shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement or aging and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such requests. Beginning September 1, 1996, as compensation for such service, the member shall have added, pursuant to this subsection, to the member's monthly annuity as provided by this section a dollar amount equal to the lesser of sixty dollars or the product of two dollars multiplied by the member's number of years of creditable service. Beginning September 1, 1999, the designated beneficiary of the deceased member shall as compensation for such service have added, pursuant to this subsection, to the monthly annuity as provided by this section a dollar amount equal to the lesser of sixty dollars or the product of two dollars multiplied by the member's number of years of creditable service. The total compensation provided by this section including the compensation provided by this subsection shall be used in calculating any future cost-of-living adjustments provided by subsection 13 of this section.
 - 20. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 1998, and the designated beneficiary of a deceased retired member shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such requests. As compensation for such duties the person

shall receive a payment equivalent to eight and seven-tenths percent of the previous month's benefit, which shall be added to the member's or beneficiary's monthly annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 13 and 14 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of increases which may be received.

- 21. Any member who has retired shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such request. As compensation for such duties, the beneficiary of the retired member, or, if there is no beneficiary, the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the retired member, in that order of precedence, shall receive as a part of compensation for these duties a death benefit of five thousand dollars.
- 22. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 1999, and the designated beneficiary of a retired member who was deceased prior to July 1, 1999, shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such requests. As compensation for such duties, the person shall have added, pursuant to this subsection, to the monthly annuity as provided by this section a dollar amount equal to five dollars times the member's number of years of creditable service.
- 23. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 2000, and the designated beneficiary of a deceased retired member shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such requests. As compensation for such duties, the person shall receive a payment equivalent to three and five-tenths percent of the previous month's benefit, which shall be added to the member or beneficiary's monthly annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 13 and 14 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of increases which may be received.
- 24. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 2001, and the designated beneficiary of a deceased retired member shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging, and upon request shall give written or oral opinions to the board in response to such requests. As compensation for such duties, the person

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shall receive a dollar amount equal to three dollars times the member's number of years of creditable service, which shall be added to the member's or beneficiary's monthly annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 13 and 14 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of increases which may be received.

384 169.270. Unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context, the 385 following words and phrases as used in sections 169.270 to 169.400 shall have the 386 following meanings:

- (1) "Accumulated contributions", the sum of all amounts deducted from the compensation of a member or paid on behalf of the member by the employer and credited to the member's individual account together with interest thereon in the employees' contribution fund. The board of trustees shall determine the rate of interest allowed thereon as provided for in section 169.295;
- (2) "Actuarial equivalent", a benefit of equal value when computed upon the basis of formulas and/or tables which have been approved by the board of trustees. The formulas and tables in effect at any time shall be set forth in a written document which shall be maintained at the offices of the retirement system and treated for all purposes as part of the documents governing the retirement system established by section 169.280. The formulas and tables may be changed from time to time if recommended by the retirement system's actuary and approved by the board of trustees;
- (3) "Average final compensation", the highest average annual compensation received for any four consecutive years of service. In determining whether years of service are "consecutive", only periods for which creditable service is earned shall be considered, and all other periods shall be disregarded;
- 404 (4) "Beneficiary", any person designated by a member for a retirement 405 allowance or other benefit as provided by sections 169.270 to 169.400;
- 406 (5) "Board of education", the board of directors or corresponding board, by 407 whatever name, having charge of the public schools of the school district in which 408 the retirement system is established;
 - (6) "Board of trustees", the board provided for in section 169.291 to administer the retirement system;
- 411 (7) "Break in service", an occurrence when a regular employee ceases to 412 be a regular employee for any reason other than retirement (including 413 termination of employment, resignation, or furlough but not including vacation, 414 sick leave, excused absence or leave of absence granted by an employer) and such

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415 person does not again become a regular employee until after sixty consecutive 416 calendar days have elapsed, or after fifteen consecutive school or work days have elapsed, whichever occurs later. A break in service also occurs when a regular 417 418 employee retires under the retirement system established by section 169.280 and 419 does not again become a regular employee until after fifteen consecutive school 420 or work days have elapsed. A "school or work day" is a day on which the 421 employee's employer requires (or if the position no longer exists, would require, 422 based on past practice) employees having the former employee's last job 423 description to report to their place of employment for any reason;

- (8) "Charter school", any charter school established pursuant to sections 160.400 to 160.420 and located, at the time it is established, within the school district;
- 427 (9) "Compensation", the regular compensation as shown on the salary and 428 wage schedules of the employer, including any amounts paid by the employer on a member's behalf pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of section 169.350, 429 430 but such term is not to include extra pay, overtime pay, consideration for entering 431 into early retirement, or any other payments not included on salary and wage 432 schedules. For any year beginning after December 31, 1988, the annual 433 compensation of each member taken into account under the retirement system 434 shall not exceed the limitation set forth in Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal 435 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
 - (10) "Creditable service", the amount of time that a regular employee is a member of the retirement system and makes contributions thereto in accordance with the provisions of sections 169.270 to 169.400;
- 439 (11) "Employee", any person who is classified by the school district, a charter school, the library district or the retirement system established by section 440 169.280 as an employee of such employer and is reported contemporaneously for 441 442 federal and state tax purposes as an employee of such employer. A person is not considered to be an employee for purposes of such retirement system with respect 443 444 to any service for which the person was not reported contemporaneously for 445 federal and state tax purposes as an employee of such employer, regardless of whether the person is or may later be determined to be or to have been a common 446 447 law employee of such employer, including but not limited to a person classified 448 by the employer as independent contractors and persons employed by other 449 entities which contract to provide staff and services to the employer. In no event 450 shall a person reported for federal tax purposes as an employee of a private, for-

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- profit entity be deemed to be an employee eligible to participate in the retirement system established by section 169.280 with respect to such employment;
- 453 (12) "Employer", the school district, any charter school, the library 454 district, or the retirement system established by section 169.280, or any 455 combination thereof, as required by the context to identify the employer of any 456 member, or, for purposes only of subsection 2 of section 169.324, of any retirant;
 - (13) "Employer's board", the board of education, the governing board of any charter school, the board of trustees of the library district, the board of trustees, or any combination thereof, as required by the context to identify the governing body of an employer;
- 461 (14) "Library district", any urban public library district created from or 462 within a school district under the provisions of section 182.703;
- 463 (15) "Medical board", the board of physicians provided for in section 464 169.291;
- (16) "Member", any person who is a regular employee after the retirement system has been established hereunder ("active member"), and any person who (i) was an active member, (ii) has vested retirement benefits hereunder, and (iii) is not receiving a retirement allowance hereunder ("inactive member"). A person shall cease to be a member if the person has a break in service before earning any vested retirement benefits or if the person withdraws his or her accumulated contributions from the retirement system;
 - before January 1, 2014, or who is a member of the retirement system on December 31, 2013, and remains a member continuously to retirement, the earlier of the date the member attains the age of sixty or the date the member has a total of at least seventy-five credits, with each year of creditable service and each year of age equal to one credit[,] and with both years of creditable service and years of age prorated for fractional years; for any person who becomes a member of the retirement system on or after January 1, 2014, including any person who was previously a member of the retirement system before January 1, 2014, but ceased to be a member for any reason other than retirement, the earlier of the date the member attains the age of sixty-two or the date the member has a total of at least eighty credits, with each year of creditable service and each year of age equal to one credit and with both years of creditable service and years of age prorated for fractional years;

- 487 (18) "Prior service", service prior to the date the system becomes operative 488 which is creditable in accordance with the provisions of section 169.311. Prior 489 service in excess of thirty-eight years shall be considered thirty-eight years;
- 490 (19) "Regular employee", any employee who is assigned to an established 491 position which requires service of not less than twenty-five hours per week, and 492 not less than nine calendar months a year. Any regular employee who is 493 subsequently assigned without break in service to a position demanding less 494 service than is required of a regular employee shall continue the employee's 495 status as a regular employee. Except as stated in the preceding sentence, a 496 temporary, part-time, or furloughed employee is not a regular employee;
- 497 (20) "Retirant", a former member receiving a retirement allowance 498 hereunder;
- 499 (21) "Retirement allowance", annuity payments to a retirant or to such 500 beneficiary as is entitled to same;
- 501 (22) "School district", any school district in which a retirement system 502 shall be established under section 169.280.
 - 169.291. 1. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the retirement system are hereby vested in a board of trustees of twelve persons who shall be resident taxpayers of the school district, as follows:
 - 4 (1) Four trustees to be appointed for terms of four years by the board of education; provided, however, that the terms of office of the first four trustees so appointed shall begin immediately upon their appointment and shall expire one, two, three and four years from the date the retirement system becomes operative, respectively;
- 9 (2) Four trustees to be elected for terms of four years by and from the 10 members of the retirement system; provided, however, that the terms of office of 11 the first four trustees so elected shall begin immediately upon their election and 12 shall expire one, two, three and four years from the date the retirement system 13 becomes operative, respectively;
- 14 (3) The ninth trustee shall be the superintendent of schools of the school 15 district;
- 16 (4) The tenth trustee shall be one retirant of the retirement system 17 elected for a term of four years beginning the first day of January immediately 18 following August 13, 1986, by the retirants of the retirement system;
- 19 (5) The eleventh trustee shall be appointed for a term of four years 20 beginning the first day of January immediately following August 13, 1990, by the

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- 21 board of trustees described in subdivision (3) of section 182.701;
- 22 (6) The twelfth trustee shall be a retirant of the retirement system elected 23 for a term of four years beginning the first day of January immediately following August 28, 1992, by the retirants of the retirement system. 24
- 2. If a vacancy occurs in the office of a trustee, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled, 26except that the board of trustees may appoint a qualified person to fill the 28 vacancy in the office of an elected member until the next regular election at which 29 time a member shall be elected for the unexpired term. No vacancy or vacancies 30 on the board of trustees shall impair the power of the remaining trustees to administer the retirement system pending the filling of such vacancy or vacancies.
 - 3. In the event of a lapse of the school district's corporate organization as described in subsections 1 and 4 of section 162.081, the general administration and responsibility for the proper operation of the retirement system shall continue to be vested in a twelve-person board of trustees, all of whom shall be resident taxpayers of a city, other than a city not within a county, of four hundred thousand or more. In such event, if vacancies occur in the offices of the four trustees appointed, prior to the lapse, by the board of education, or in the offices of the four trustees elected, prior to the lapse, by the members of the retirement system, or in the office of trustee held, prior to the lapse, by the superintendent of schools in the school district, as provided in subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of subsection 1 of this section, the board of trustees shall appoint a qualified person to fill each vacancy and subsequent vacancies in the office of trustee for terms of up to four years, as determined by the board of trustees.
 - 4. Each trustee shall, before assuming the duties of a trustee, take the oath of office before the court of the judicial circuit or one of the courts of the judicial circuit in which the school district is located that so far as it devolves upon the trustee, such trustee shall diligently and honestly administer the affairs of the board of trustees and that the trustee will not knowingly violate or willingly permit to be violated any of the provisions of the law applicable to the retirement system. Such oath shall be subscribed to by the trustee making it and filed in the office of the clerk of the circuit court.
- 54 5. Each trustee shall be entitled to one vote in the board of trustees. Seven trustees shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board 55 56 of trustees. At any meeting of the board of trustees where a quorum is present,

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the vote of at least seven of the trustees in support of a motion, resolution or other matter is necessary to be the decision of the board; provided, however, that in the event of a lapse in the school district's corporate organization as described in subsections 1 and 4 of section 162.081, a majority of the trustees then in office shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board of trustees, and the vote of a majority of the trustees then in office in support of a motion, resolution or other matter shall be necessary to be the decision of the board.

- 6. The board of trustees shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in all matters relating to or affecting the funds herein provided for, including, in addition to all other matters, all claims for benefits or refunds, and its action, decision or determination in any matter shall be reviewable in accordance with chapter 536 or chapter 621. Subject to the limitations of sections 169.270 to 169.400, the board of trustees shall, from time to time, establish rules and regulations for the administration of funds of the retirement system, for the transaction of its business, and for the limitation of the time within which claims may be filed.
- 73 7. The trustees shall serve without compensation. The board of trustees shall elect from its membership a chairman and a vice chairman. The board of 74 75 trustees shall appoint an executive director who shall serve as the administrative officer of the retirement system and as secretary to the board of trustees. It shall 76 77 employ one or more persons, firms or corporations experienced in the investment 78 of moneys to serve as investment counsel to the board of trustees. The 79 compensation of all persons engaged by the board of trustees and all other 80 expenses of the board necessary for the operation of the retirement system shall 81 be paid at such rates and in such amounts as the board of trustees shall approve, 82 and shall be paid from the investment income.
 - 8. The board of trustees shall keep in convenient form such data as shall be necessary for actuarial valuations of the various funds of the retirement system and for checking the experience of the system.
- 9. The board of trustees shall keep a record of all its proceedings which shall be open to public inspection. It shall prepare annually and furnish to the board of education and to each member of the retirement system who so requests a report showing the fiscal transactions of the retirement system for the preceding fiscal year, the amount of accumulated cash and securities of the system, and the last balance sheet showing the financial condition of the system by means of an actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the retirement

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- 10. The board of trustees shall have, in its own name, power to sue and 94 to be sued, to enter into contracts, to own property, real and personal, and to 95 convey the same; but the members of such board of trustees shall not be 96 personally liable for obligations or liabilities of the board of trustees or of the 97 retirement system. 98
- 99 11. The board of trustees shall arrange for necessary legal advice for the 100 operation of the retirement system.
 - 12. The board of trustees shall designate a medical board to be composed of three or more physicians who shall not be eligible for membership in the system and who shall pass upon all medical examinations required under the provisions of sections 169.270 to 169.400, shall investigate all essential statements and certificates made by or on behalf of a member in connection with an application for disability retirement and shall report in writing to the board of trustees its conclusions and recommendations upon all matters referred to it.
- 108 13. The board of trustees shall designate an actuary who shall be the 109 technical advisor of the board of trustees on matters regarding the operation of the retirement system and shall perform such other duties as are required in 110 111 connection therewith. Such person shall be qualified as an actuary by 112 membership as a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries or by similar objective standards. 113
- 114 14. At least once in each five-year period the actuary shall make an investigation into the actuarial experience of the members, retirants and 115 beneficiaries of the retirement system and, taking into account the results of such 116 117 investigation, the board of trustees shall adopt for the retirement system such actuarial assumptions as the board of trustees deems necessary for the financial 118 soundness of the retirement system. 119
- 120 15. On the basis of such actuarial assumptions as the board of trustees adopts, the actuary shall make annual valuations of the assets and liabilities of 121 122 the funds of the retirement system.
- 16. The rate of contribution payable by the [employer] employers shall equal one and ninety-nine one-hundredths percent, effective July 1, 1993; three and ninety-nine one-hundredths percent, effective July 1, 1995; five and ninety-126 nine one-hundredths percent, effective July 1, 1996; seven and one-half percent 127 effective January 1, 1999, and for [all] subsequent calendar years through 2013. For calendar year 2014 and each subsequent year, the rate of 128

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contribution payable by the employers for each year shall be determined by the actuary for the retirement system in the manner provided in subsection 4 of section 169.350 and shall be certified by the board of trustees to the employers at least six months prior to the date such rate is to be effective.

17. In the event of a lapse of a school district's corporate organization as
described in subsections 1 and 4 of section 162.081, no retirement system, nor any
of the assets of any retirement system, shall be transferred to or merged with
another retirement system without prior approval of such transfer or merge by
the board of trustees of the retirement system.

169.301. 1. Any active member who has completed five or more years of actual (not purchased) creditable service shall be entitled to a vested retirement benefit equal to the annual service retirement allowance provided in sections 169.270 to 169.400 payable after attaining the minimum normal retirement age and calculated in accordance with the law in effect on the last date such person was a regular employee; provided, that such member does not withdraw such person's accumulated contributions pursuant to section 169.328 prior to attaining the minimum normal retirement age.

- 9 2. Any member who elected on October 13, 1961, or within thirty days thereafter, to continue to contribute and to receive benefits under sections 10 169.270 to 169.400 may continue to be a member of the retirement system under 11 12 the terms and conditions of the plan in effect immediately prior to October 13, 1961, or may, upon written request to the board of trustees, transfer to the 13 present plan, provided that the member pays into the system any additional 14 15 contributions with interest the member would have credited to the member's 16 account if such person had been a member of the current plan since its inception or, if the person's contributions and interest are in excess of what the person 17 18 would have paid, such person will receive a refund of such excess. The board of trustees shall adopt appropriate rules and regulations governing the operation 19 20 of the plan in effect immediately prior to October 13, 1961.
 - 3. Should a retirant again become an active member, such person's retirement allowance payments shall cease during such membership and shall be recalculated upon subsequent retirement to include any creditable service earned during the person's latest period of active membership in accordance with subsection 2 of section 169.324.
 - 4. In the event of the complete termination of the retirement system

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established by section 169.280 or the complete discontinuance of contributions to such retirement system, the rights of all members to benefits accrued to the date of such termination or discontinuance, to the extent then funded, shall be fully vested and nonforfeitable.

5. If a member leaves employment with an employer to perform qualified military service, as defined in Section 414(u) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and dies while in such service, the member's survivors shall be entitled to any additional benefits (other than benefit accruals relating to the period of qualified military service) that would have been provided had the member resumed employment with the employer and then terminated on account of death in accordance with the requirements of Sections [407(a)(37)] 401(a)(37) and 414(u) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. In such event, the member's period of qualified military [services] service shall be counted as creditable service for purposes of vesting but not for purposes of determining the amount of the member's retirement allowance.

169.324. 1. The annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 [in equal monthly installments for life shall be the retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by one and three-fourths percent of the person's average final compensation, subject to a maximum of sixty percent of the person's average final compensation. For any member who retires as an active member on or after June 30, 1999, the annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life shall be the retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by two percent of the person's average final compensation, subject to a maximum of sixty percent of the person's average final compensation. Any member whose number of years of creditable service is greater than thirty-four and one-quarter on August 28, 11 1993, shall receive an annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to 12 section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life equal to the retirant's 13 number of years of creditable service as of August 28, 1993, multiplied by one and three-fourths percent of the person's average final compensation but shall not 15 receive a greater annual service retirement allowance based on additional years 16 of creditable service after August 28, 1993. Provided, however, that, shall be 17 the retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by a 19 percentage of the retirant's average final compensation, determined as 20 follows:

(1) A retirant whose last employment as a regular employee

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- 22ended prior to June 30, 1999, shall receive an annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life equal to the retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by one and three-fourths percent of the 25 person's average final compensation, subject to a maximum of sixty 26 percent of the person's average final compensation; 27
 - (2) A retirant whose number of years of creditable service is greater than thirty-four and one-quarter on August 28, 1993, shall receive an annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life equal to the retirant's number of years of creditable service as of August 28, 1993, multiplied by one and three-fourths percent of the person's average final compensation but shall not receive a greater annual service retirement allowance based on additional years of creditable service after August 28, 1993;
- 37 (3) A retirant who was an active member of the retirement system at any time on or after June 30, 1999, and who either retires 38 before January 1, 2014, or is a member of the retirement system on 39 December 31, 2013, and remains a member continuously to retirement 40 41 shall receive an annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life equal to the 4243 retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by two 44 percent of the person's average final compensation, subject to a 45 maximum of sixty percent of the person's final compensation;
 - (4) A retirant who becomes a member of the retirement system on or after January 1, 2014, including any retirant who was a member of the retirement system before January 1, 2014, but ceased to be a member for any reason other than retirement, shall receive an annual service retirement allowance payable pursuant to section 169.320 in equal monthly installments for life equal to the retirant's number of years of creditable service multiplied by one and three-fourths percent of the person's average final compensation, subject to a maximum of sixty percent of the person's average final compensation;
- 55 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4) of 56 this subsection, effective January 1, 1996, any [retiree] retirant who retired on, before or after January 1, 1996, with at least twenty years of creditable service shall receive at least three hundred dollars each month as a retirement 58

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allowance, or the actuarial equivalent thereof if the [retiree] retirant elected any 59 of the options available under section 169.326. [Provided, further, any retiree] 60 Any retirant who retired with at least ten years of creditable service shall receive at least one hundred fifty dollars each month as a retirement allowance, 62 plus fifteen dollars for each additional full year of creditable service greater than 63 ten years but less than twenty years (or the actuarial equivalent thereof if the 64 [retiree] retirant elected any of the options available under section 65 66 169.326). Any beneficiary of a deceased [retiree] retirant who retired with at least ten years of creditable service and elected one of the options available under 67 68 section 169.326 shall also be entitled to the actuarial equivalent of the minimum benefit provided by this subsection, determined from the option chosen. 69

2. Except as otherwise provided in sections 169.331, 169.580 and 169.585, payment of a retirant's retirement allowance will be suspended for any month for which such person receives remuneration from the person's employer or from any other employer in the retirement system established by section 169.280 for the performance of services except any such person other than a person receiving a disability retirement allowance under section 169.322 may serve as a nonregular substitute, part-time or temporary employee for not more than six hundred hours in any school year without becoming a member and without having the person's retirement allowance discontinued, provided that through such substitute, parttime, or temporary employment, the person may earn no more than fifty percent of the annual salary or wages the person was last paid by the employer before the person retired and commenced receiving a retirement allowance, adjusted for inflation. If a person exceeds such hours limit or such compensation limit, payment of the person's retirement allowance shall be suspended for the month in which such limit was exceeded and each subsequent month in the school year for which the person receives remuneration from any employer in the retirement system. If a retirant is reemployed by any employer in any capacity, whether pursuant to this section, or section 169.331, 169.580, or 169.585, or as a regular employee, the amount of such person's retirement allowance attributable to service prior to the person's first retirement date shall not be changed by the reemployment. If the person again becomes an active member and earns additional creditable service, upon the person's second retirement the person's retirement allowance shall be the sum of:

93 (1) The retirement allowance the person was receiving at the time the 94 person's retirement allowance was suspended, pursuant to the payment option

elected as of the first retirement date, plus the amount of any increase in such retirement allowance the person would have received pursuant to subsection 3 of this section had payments not been suspended during the person's reemployment; and

- (2) An additional retirement allowance computed using the benefit formula in effect on the person's second retirement date, the person's creditable service following reemployment, and the person's average final annual compensation as of the second retirement date. The sum calculated pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed the greater of sixty percent of the person's average final compensation as of the second retirement date or the amount determined pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection. Compensation earned prior to the person's first retirement date shall be considered in determining the person's average final compensation as of the second retirement date if such compensation would otherwise be included in determining the person's average final compensation.
- 3. The board of trustees shall determine annually whether the investment return on funds of the system can provide for an increase in benefits for retirants eligible for such increase. A retirant shall and will be eligible for an increase awarded pursuant to this section as of the second January following the date the retirant commenced receiving retirement benefits. Any such increase shall also apply to any monthly joint and survivor retirement allowance payable to such retirant's beneficiaries, regardless of age. The board shall make such determination as follows:
- (1) After determination by the actuary of the investment return for the preceding year as of December thirty-first (the "valuation year"), the actuary shall recommend to the board of trustees what portion of the investment return is available to provide such benefits increase, if any, and shall recommend the amount of such benefits increase, if any, to be implemented as of the first day of the thirteenth month following the end of the valuation year, and [the] first payable on or about the first day of the fourteenth month following the end of the valuation year. The actuary shall make such recommendations so as not to affect the financial soundness of the retirement system, recognizing the following safeguards:
- 128 (a) The retirement system's funded ratio as of January first of the year 129 preceding the year of a proposed increase shall be at least one hundred percent 130 after adjusting for the effect of the proposed increase. The funded ratio is the

- 131 ratio of assets to the pension benefit obligation;
- 132 (b) The actuarially required contribution rate, after adjusting for the 133 effect of the proposed increase, may not exceed the [statutory] then applicable 134 employer and member contribution rate as determined under subsection 135 4 of section 169.350;
- 136 (c) The actuary shall certify to the board of trustees that the proposed 137 increase will not impair the actuarial soundness of the retirement system;
 - (d) A benefit increase, under this section, once awarded, cannot be reduced in succeeding years;
 - (2) The board of trustees shall review the actuary's recommendation and report and shall, in their discretion, determine if any increase is prudent and, if so, shall determine the amount of increase to be awarded.
 - 4. This section does not guarantee an annual increase to any retirant.
 - 5. If an inactive member becomes an active member after June 30, 2001, and after a break in service, unless the person earns at least four additional years of creditable service without another break in service, upon retirement the person's retirement allowance shall be calculated separately for each separate period of service ending in a break in service. The retirement allowance shall be the sum of the separate retirement allowances computed for each such period of service using the benefit formula in effect, the person's average final compensation as of the last day of such period of service and the creditable service the person earned during such period of service; provided, however, if the person earns at least four additional years of creditable service without another break in service, all of the person's creditable service prior to and including such service shall be aggregated and, upon retirement, the retirement allowance shall be computed using the benefit formula in effect and the person's average final compensation as of the last day of such period of four or more years and all of the creditable service the person earned prior to and during such period.
 - 6. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section to the contrary, the amount of the annual service retirement allowance payable to any retirant pursuant to the provisions of sections 169.270 to 169.400, including any adjustments made pursuant to subsection 3 of this section, shall at all times comply with the provisions and limitations of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations thereunder, the terms of which are specifically incorporated herein by reference.
 - 7. All retirement systems established by the laws of the state of Missouri

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shall develop a procurement action plan for utilization of minority and women money managers, brokers and investment counselors. Such retirement systems shall report their progress annually to the joint committee on public employee retirement and the governor's minority advocacy commission.

- 169.350. 1. All of the assets of the retirement system (other than tangible real or personal property owned by the retirement system for use in carrying out its duties, such as office supplies and furniture) shall be credited, according to the purpose for which they are held, in either the employees' contribution fund or the general reserve fund.
- 6 (1) The employees' contribution fund shall be the fund in which shall be accumulated the contributions of the members. The employer shall, except as provided in subdivision (5) of this subsection, cause to be deducted from the compensation of each member on each and every payroll, for each and every payroll period, the pro rata portion of five and nine-tenths percent of his 10 11 annualized compensation. Effective January 1, 1999, through December 31, 2013, the employer shall deduct an additional one and six-tenths percent of the 13 member's annualized compensation. For 2014 and for each subsequent year, the employer shall deduct from each member's annualized 14 compensation the rate of contribution determined for such year by the 15 actuary for the retirement system in the manner provided in subsection 16 4 of this section. 17
 - (2) The employer shall pay all such deductions and any amount it may elect to pay pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection to the retirement system at once. The retirement system shall credit such deductions and such amounts to the individual account of each member from whose compensation the deduction was made or with respect to whose compensation the amount was paid pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection. In determining the deduction for a member in any payroll period, the board of trustees may consider the rate of compensation payable to such member on the first day of the payroll period as continuing throughout such period.
 - (3) The deductions provided for herein are declared to be a part of the compensation of the member and the making of such deductions shall constitute payments by the member out of the person's compensation and such deductions shall be made notwithstanding that the amount actually paid to the member after such deductions is less than the minimum compensation provided by law for any member. Every member shall be deemed to consent to the deductions made and

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provided for herein, and shall receipt for the person's full compensation, and the making of the deduction and the payment of compensation less the deduction shall be a full and complete discharge and acquittance of all claims and demands whatsoever for services rendered during the period covered by the payment except as to benefits provided by sections 169.270 to 169.400.

- (4) The accumulated contributions with interest of a member withdrawn by the person or paid to the person's estate or designated beneficiary in the event of the person's death before retirement shall be paid from the employees' contribution fund. Upon retirement of a member the member's accumulated contributions with interest shall be transferred from the employees' contribution fund to the general reserve fund.
- 44 (5) The employer may elect to pay on behalf of all members all or part of 45 the amount that the members would otherwise be required to contribute to the employees' contribution fund pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such 46 47 amounts paid by the employer shall be in lieu of members' contributions and shall be treated for all purposes of sections 169.270 to 169.400 as contributions made 48 49 by members. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, no member shall be entitled to receive such amounts directly. The election shall 50 51 be made by a duly adopted resolution of the employer's board and shall remain in effect for at least one year from the effective date thereof. The election may 53 be thereafter terminated only by an affirmative act of the employer's board notwithstanding any limitation in the term thereof in the adopting 54 resolution. Any such termination resolution shall be adopted at least sixty days 55 prior to the effective date thereof, and the effective date thereof shall coincide 56 57 with a fiscal year-end of the employer. In the absence of such a termination resolution, the election shall remain in effect from fiscal year to fiscal year. 58
 - 2. The general reserve fund shall be the fund in which shall be accumulated all reserves for the payment of all benefit expenses and other demands whatsoever upon the retirement system except those items heretofore allocated to the employees' contribution fund.
 - (1) All contributions by the employer, except those the employer elects to make on behalf of the members pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, shall be credited to the general reserve fund.
 - (2) Should a retirant be restored to active service and again become a member of the retirement system, the excess, if any, of the person's accumulated contributions over benefits received by the retirant shall be transferred from the

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69 general reserve fund to the employees' contribution fund and credited to the 70 person's account.

- 3. Gifts, devises, bequests and legacies may be accepted by the board of trustees and deposited in the general reserve fund to be held, invested and used at its discretion for the benefit of the retirement system except where specific direction for the use of a gift is made by a donor.
- 4. Beginning in 2013, the actuary for the retirement system shall annually calculate the rate of employer contributions and member contributions for 2014 and for each subsequent calendar year, expressed as a level percentage of the annualized compensation of the members, subject to the following:
- (1) The rate of contribution for any calendar year shall be determined based on an actuarial valuation of the retirement system as of the first day of the prior calendar year. Such actuarial valuation shall be performed using the actuarial cost method and actuarial assumptions adopted by the board of trustees and in accordance with accepted actuarial standards of practice in effect at the time the valuation is performed, as promulgated by the actuarial standards board or its successor;
- (2) The target combined employer and member contribution rate shall be the amount actuarially required to cover the normal cost and amortize any unfunded accrued actuarial liability over a period that shall not exceed thirty years from the date of the valuation;
- (3) The target combined rate as so determined shall be allocated equally between the employer contribution rate and the member contribution rate, provided, however, that the level rate of contributions to be paid by the employers and the level rate of contributions to be deducted from the compensation of members for any calender year shall each be limited as follows:
- 98 (a) The contribution rate shall not be less than seven and one-99 half percent;
 - (b) The contribution rate shall not exceed nine percent; and
- 101 (c) Changes in the contribution rate from year to year shall be 102 in increments of one-half percent such that the contribution rate for 103 any year shall not be greater than or less than the rate in effect for the 104 prior year by more than one-half percent;
 - (4) The board of trustees shall certify to the employers the

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contribution rate for the following calendar year no later than six months prior to the date such rate is to be effective. 107

- 169.670. 1. The retirement allowance of a member whose age at 2 retirement is sixty years or more and whose creditable service is five years or more, or whose sum of age and creditable service equals eighty years or more, or whose creditable service is thirty years or more regardless of age, shall be the sum of the following items: 5
- 6 (1) For each year of membership service, one and sixty-one hundredths percent of the member's final average salary; 7
- 8 (2) Six-tenths of the amount payable for a year of membership service for 9 each year of prior service;
- 10 (3) Eighty-five one-hundredths of one percent of any amount by which the 11 member's average compensation for services rendered prior to July 1, 1973, exceeds the average monthly compensation on which federal Social Security taxes 12 13 were paid during the period over which such average compensation was computed, for each year of membership service credit for services rendered prior 15 to July 1, 1973, plus six-tenths of the amount payable for a year of membership service for each year of prior service credit; 16
- 17 (4) In lieu of the retirement allowance otherwise provided by subdivisions 18 (1) to (3) of this subsection, [between July 1, 2001, and July 1, 2013,] a member may elect to receive a retirement allowance of: 19
- 20 (a) One and fifty-nine hundredths percent of the member's final average 21 salary for each year of membership service, if the member's creditable service is 22 twenty-nine years or more but less than thirty years and the member has not 23 attained the age of fifty-five;
- 24 (b) One and fifty-seven hundredths percent of the member's final average salary for each year of membership service, if the member's creditable service is 2526 twenty-eight years or more but less than twenty-nine years, and the member has 27 not attained the age of fifty-five;
- (c) One and fifty-five hundredths percent of the member's final average 29 salary for each year of membership service, if the member's creditable service is twenty-seven years or more but less than twenty-eight years and the member has not attained the age of fifty-five;
- 32 (d) One and fifty-three hundredths percent of the member's final average 33 salary for each year of membership service, if the member's creditable service is twenty-six years or more but less than twenty-seven years and the member has 34

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35 not attained the age of fifty-five;

- (e) One and fifty-one hundredths percent of the member's final average salary for each year of membership service, if the member's creditable service is twenty-five years or more but less than twenty-six years and the member has not attained the age of fifty-five; and
- (5) In addition to the retirement allowance provided in subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection, a member retiring on or after July 1, 2001, whose creditable service is thirty years or more or whose sum of age and creditable service is eighty years or more, shall receive a temporary retirement allowance equivalent to eight-tenths of one percent of the member's final average salary multiplied by the member's years of service until such time as the member reaches the minimum age for Social Security retirement benefits.
- 47 2. If the board of trustees determines that the cost of living, as measured by generally accepted standards, increases five percent or more in the preceding 48 49 fiscal year, the board shall increase the retirement allowances which the retired members or beneficiaries are receiving by five percent of the amount being 50 51 received by the retired member or the beneficiary at the time the annual increase is granted by the board; provided that, the increase provided in this subsection 52 53 shall not become effective until the fourth January first following a member's retirement or January 1, 1982, whichever occurs later, and the total of the 54 55 increases granted to a retired member or the beneficiary after December 31, 1981, may not exceed eighty percent of the retirement allowance established at 56 57 retirement or as previously adjusted by other provisions of law. If the cost of 58 living increases less than five percent, the board of trustees may determine the 59 percentage of increase to be made in retirement allowances, but at no time can the increase exceed five percent per year. If the cost of living decreases in a fiscal 60 year, there will be no increase in allowances for retired members on the following 61 62 January first.
- 3. The board of trustees may reduce the amounts which have been granted as increases to a member pursuant to subsection 2 of this section if the cost of living, as determined by the board and as measured by generally accepted standards, is less than the cost of living was at the time of the first increase granted to the member; provided that, the reductions shall not exceed the amount of increases which have been made to the member's allowance after December 31, 1981.
 - 4. (1) In lieu of the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 of this

section, called option 1, a member whose creditable service is twenty-five years or more or who has attained age fifty-five with five or more years of creditable service may elect, in the application for retirement, to receive the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance in reduced monthly payments for life during retirement with the provision that:

Option 2. Upon the member's death, the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance will be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the member elected option 1; OR

Option 3. Upon the death of the member three-fourths of the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member and as the member shall have nominated in an election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance will be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the member elected option 1; OR

Option 4. Upon the death of the member one-half of the reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of, and paid to, such person as has an insurable interest in the life of the member and as the member shall have nominated in an election of the option, and provided further that if the person so nominated dies before the retired member, the retirement allowance shall be increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the member elected option 1; OR

Option 5. Upon the death of the member prior to the member having received one hundred twenty monthly payments of the member's reduced allowance, the remainder of the one hundred twenty monthly payments of the reduced allowance shall be paid to such beneficiary as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option or in a subsequent nomination. If there is no beneficiary so nominated who survives the member for the remainder of the one hundred twenty monthly payments, the reserve for the remainder of such one hundred twenty monthly payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the last person, in that order of precedence, to receive a

monthly allowance in a lump sum payment. If the total of the one hundred twenty payments paid to the retired individual and the beneficiary of the retired individual is less than the total of the member's accumulated contributions, the difference shall be paid to the beneficiary in a lump sum; OR

Option 6. Upon the death of the member prior to the member having received sixty monthly payments of the member's reduced allowance, the remainder of the sixty monthly payments of the reduced allowance shall be paid to such beneficiary as the member shall have nominated in the member's election of the option or in a subsequent nomination. If there is no beneficiary so nominated who survives the member for the remainder of the sixty monthly payments, the reserve for the remainder of such sixty monthly payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the last person, in that order of precedence, to receive a monthly allowance in a lump sum payment. If the total of the sixty payments paid to the retired individual and the beneficiary of the retired individual is less than the total of the member's accumulated contributions, the difference shall be paid to the beneficiary in a lump sum; OR

Option 7. A plan of variable monthly benefit payments which provides, in conjunction with the member's retirement benefits under the federal Social Security laws, level or near-level retirement benefit payments to the member for life during retirement, and if authorized, to an appropriate beneficiary designated by the member. Such a plan shall be actuarially equivalent to the retirement allowance under option 1 and shall be available for election only if established by the board of trustees under duly adopted rules.

- (2) The election of an option may be made only in the application for retirement and such application must be filed prior to the date on which the retirement of the member is to be effective. If either the member or the person nominated dies before the effective date of retirement, the option shall not be effective, provided that:
- (a) If the member or a person retired on disability retirement dies after attaining age fifty-five and acquiring five or more years of creditable service or after acquiring twenty-five or more years of creditable service and before retirement, except retirement with disability benefits, and the person named by the member as the member's beneficiary has an insurable interest in the life of the deceased member, the designated beneficiary may elect to receive either survivorship payments under option 2 or a payment of the member's accumulated

contributions. If survivorship benefits under option 2 are elected and the member at the time of death would have been eligible to receive an actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance, the designated beneficiary may further elect to defer the option 2 payments until the date the member would have been eligible to receive the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 of this section.

- (b) If the member or a person retired on disability retirement dies before attaining age fifty-five but after acquiring five but fewer than twenty-five years of creditable service, and the person named as the beneficiary has an insurable interest in the life of the deceased member or disability retiree, the designated beneficiary may elect to receive either a payment of the person's accumulated contributions or survivorship benefits under option 2 to begin on the date the member would first have been eligible to receive an actuarial equivalent of the person's retirement allowance, or to begin on the date the member would first have been eligible to receive the retirement allowance provided in subsection 1 of this section.
- 5. If the total of the retirement or disability allowances paid to an individual before the person's death is less than the person's accumulated contributions at the time of the person's retirement, the difference shall be paid to the person's beneficiary or, if there is no beneficiary, to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or person's estate, in that order of precedence; provided, however, that if an optional benefit, as provided in option 2, 3 or 4 in subsection 4 of this section, had been elected and the beneficiary dies after receiving the optional benefit, then, if the total retirement allowances paid to the retired individual and the individual's beneficiary are less than the total of the contributions, the difference shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the beneficiary, in that order of precedence, unless the retired individual designates a different recipient with the board at or after retirement.
- 6. If a member dies and his or her financial institution is unable to accept the final payment or payments due to the member, the final payment or payments shall be paid to the beneficiary of the member or, if there is no beneficiary, to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the member, in that order of precedence, unless otherwise stated. If the beneficiary of a deceased member dies and his or her financial

institution is unable to accept the final payment or payments, the final payment or payments shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the member, in that order of precedence, unless otherwise stated.

- 7. If a member dies before receiving a retirement allowance, the member's accumulated contributions at the time of the member's death shall be paid to the member's beneficiary or, if there is no beneficiary, to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or to the member's estate; provided, however, that no such payment shall be made if the beneficiary elects option 2 in subsection 4 of this section, unless the beneficiary dies before having received benefits pursuant to that subsection equal to the accumulated contributions of the member, in which case the amount of accumulated contributions in excess of the total benefits paid pursuant to that subsection shall be paid to the surviving spouse, surviving children in equal shares, surviving parents in equal shares, or estate of the beneficiary, in that order of precedence.
- 8. If a member ceases to be an employee as defined in section 169.600 and certifies to the board of trustees that such cessation is permanent or if the person's membership is otherwise terminated, the person shall be paid the person's accumulated contributions with interest.
- 9. Notwithstanding any provisions of sections 169.600 to 169.715 to the contrary, if a member ceases to be an employee as defined in section 169.600 after acquiring five or more years of creditable service, the member may, at the option of the member, leave the member's contributions with the retirement system and claim a retirement allowance any time after the member reaches the minimum age for voluntary retirement. When the member's claim is presented to the board, the member shall be granted an allowance as provided in sections 169.600 to 169.715 on the basis of the member's age and years of service.
- 10. The retirement allowance of a member retired because of disability shall be nine-tenths of the allowance to which the member's creditable service would entitle the member if the member's age were sixty.
- 210 11. Notwithstanding any provisions of sections 169.600 to 169.715 to the 211 contrary, any member who is a member prior to October 13, 1969, may elect to 212 have the member's retirement allowance computed in accordance with sections 213 169.600 to 169.715 as they existed prior to October 13, 1969.
 - 12. Any application for retirement shall include a sworn statement by the

215 member certifying that the spouse of the member at the time the application was 216 completed was aware of the application and the plan of retirement elected in the 217 application.

- 13. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person retired prior to August 14, 1984, who is receiving a reduced retirement allowance under option 1 or 2 of subsection 4 of this section, as the option existed prior to August 14, 1984, and whose beneficiary nominated to receive continued retirement allowance payments under the elected option dies or has died, shall upon application to the board of trustees have the person's retirement allowance increased to the amount the person would have been receiving had the person not elected the option actuarially adjusted to recognize any excessive benefits which would have been paid to the person up to the time of the application.
- 14. Benefits paid pursuant to the provisions of the public education employee retirement system of Missouri shall not exceed the limitations of Section 415 of Title 26 of the United States Code, except as provided under this subsection. Notwithstanding any other law, the board of trustees may establish a benefit plan under Section 415(m) of Title 26 of the United States Code. Such plan shall be credited solely for the purpose described in Section 415(m)(3)(A) of Title 26 of the United States Code. The board of trustees may promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection and to create and administer such benefit plan.
- 15. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 1999, and the designated beneficiary of a deceased retired member upon request shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging. As compensation for such duties the person shall receive a payment equivalent to seven and four-tenths percent of the previous month's benefit, which shall be added to the member's or beneficiary's monthly annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of increases which may be received.
- 16. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 2000, and the designated beneficiary of a deceased retired member upon request shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of education, retirement and aging. As compensation for such duties the person shall receive a payment equivalent to three and four-tenths percent of the previous month's benefit, which shall be added to the member's or beneficiary's

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251 monthly annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 252 2 and 3 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of 253 increases which may be received.

254 17. Any member who has retired prior to July 1, 2001, and the designated 255 beneficiary of a deceased retired member upon request shall be made, constituted, 256 appointed and employed by the board as a special consultant on the matters of 257 education, retirement and aging. As compensation for such duties the person 258 shall receive a payment equivalent to seven and one-tenth percent of the previous 259 month's benefit, which shall be added to the member's or beneficiary's monthly 260 annuity and which shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 261 of this section for the purposes of the limit on the total amount of increases which 262 may be received.

170.340. Books of a religious nature may be used in the classroom
2 as part of instruction in elective courses in literature and history, as
3 long as such books are not used in a manner so as to violate the
4 establishment clause of the First Amendment to the United States
5 Constitution.

178.550. [The president of the state board of education shall annually appoint a committee of five members to be known as the "State Advisory 2Committee for Vocational Education". The state advisory committee shall consist 3 of one person of experience in agriculture; one employer; one representative of labor; one person of experience in home economics; one person of experience in commerce. The state commissioner of education is ex officio a member and the 7 chairman of the advisory committee. The state board of education shall formulate general principles and policies for the administration of sections 178.420 to 178.580, which, when they have been approved by the state advisory committee, 10 shall be put into effect. Joint conferences between the state board of education and advisory committee shall be held at least four times each year. All members 11 of the state advisory committee shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses in 12 attending the conferences.] 1. This section shall be known and may be 13 cited as the career and technical education student protection act. There is hereby established the "Career and Technical Education 15 Advisory Council" within the department of elementary and secondary 16 education. 17

2. The advisory council shall be composed of eleven members who shall be Missouri residents, appointed by the governor with the

- 20 advice and consent of the senate:
- 21 (1) A director or administrator of a career and technical 22 education center;
- 23 (2) An individual from the business community with a 24 background in commerce;
- 25 (3) A representative from Linn State Technical College;
- 26 (4) Three current or retired career and technical education 27 teachers who also serve or served as an advisor to any of the 28 nationally-recognized career and technical education student 29 organizations of:
- 30 **(a) DECA**;
- 31 (b) Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA);
- 32 (c) FFA;

- 33 (d) Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA);
- 34 (e) Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA);
- 35 (f) SkillsUSA; or
- 36 (g) Technology Student Association (TSA);
- 37 (5) A representative from a business organization, association of 38 businesses, or a business coalition;
- 39 (6) A representative from a Missouri community college;
- 40 (7) A representative from Southeast Missouri State University or 41 the University of Central Missouri;
- 42 (8) An individual participating in an apprenticeship recognized 43 by the department of labor and industrial relations or approved by the 44 United States Department of Labor's Office of Apprenticeship;
- 45 (9) A school administrator or school superintendent of a school 46 that offers career and technical education.
- 3. Members shall serve a term of five years except for the initial appointments, which shall be for the following lengths:
 - (1) One member shall be appointed for a term of one year;
- 50 (2) Two members shall be appointed for a term of two years;
- 51 (3) Two members shall be appointed for a term of three years;
- 52 (4) Three members shall be appointed for a term of four years;
- 53 (5) Three members shall be appointed for a term of five years.
- 4. The advisory council shall have three nonvoting ex-officio members:
- 56 (1) A director of guidance and counseling services at the

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57 department of elementary and secondary education, or a similar 58 position if such position ceases to exist;

- (2) The director of the division of workforce development; and
- 60 (3) A member of the coordinating board for higher education, as 61 selected by the coordinating board.
- 5. The assistant commissioner for the office of college and career readiness of the department of elementary and secondary education shall provide staff assistance to the advisory council.
- 65 6. The advisory council shall meet at least four times annually. The advisory council may make all rules it deems necessary to enable it to conduct its meetings, elect its officers, and set the terms and duties of its officers. The advisory council shall elect from among its members a chairperson, vice chairperson, a secretary-reporter, and such other officers as it deems necessary. Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for actual expenses necessary to the performance of their official duties for the advisory council.
- 74 7. Any business to come before the advisory council shall be available on the advisory council's internet website at least seven 75business days prior to the start of each meeting. All records of any decisions, votes, exhibits, or outcomes shall be available on the 77advisory council's internet website within forty-eight hours following 79 the conclusion of every meeting. Any materials prepared for the 80 members shall be delivered to the members at least five days before the 81 meeting, and to the extent such materials are public records as defined 82 in section 610.010 and are not permitted to be closed under section 610.021, shall be made available on the advisory council's internet 83 website at least five business days in advance of the meeting. 84
- 85 8. The advisory council shall make an annual written report to 86 the state board of education and the commissioner of education 87 regarding the development, implementation, and administration of the 88 state budget for career and technical education.
- 9. The advisory council shall annually submit written recommendations to the state board of education and the commissioner of education regarding the oversight and procedures for the handling of funds for student career and technical education organizations.
 - 10. The advisory council shall:

- 94 (1) Develop a comprehensive statewide short- and long-range 95 strategic plan for career and technical education;
- 96 (2) Identify service gaps and provide advice on methods to close 97 such gaps as they relate to youth and adult employees, workforce 98 development, and employers on training needs;
- 99 (3) Confer with public and private entities for the purpose of 100 promoting and improving career and technical education;
- 101 (4) Identify legislative recommendations to improve career and 102 technical education;
- 103 **(5)** Promote coordination of existing career and technical 104 education programs;
- 105 (6) Adopt, alter, or repeal by its own bylaws, rules, and 106 regulations governing the manner in which its business may be 107 transacted.
- 108 11. For purposes of this section, the department of elementary 109 and secondary education shall provide such documentation and 110 information as to allow the advisory council to be effective.
- 12. For purposes of this section, "advisory council" shall mean the career and technical education advisory council.

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